

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 00308 201256Z
ACTION IO-13

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CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /065 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2373
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 0308

FOR IO/CMD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECA OCON ET
SUBJ: ECA COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING -KINSHASA, FEB. 24-MARCH 3

REF A. STATE 03584; B. ADDIS ABABA 0259

1. EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT U.S. STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED AT SUBJECT
CONFERENCE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING THEMES:

A. U.S. RECOGNIZES AND VALUES ECA'S VITAL ROLE AS A MAJOR VOICE OF
AND FOR AFRICA CONCERNING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MATTERS WHETHER
EXTERNAL OR INTERANL TO THE CONTINENT. ECA HELPS THE WORLD
UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEMS AND ASPIRATIONS OF AFRICA THROUGH ITS
RESPONSIBLE APPROACH TO RESEARCH WORK, CONFERENCES, PUBLICATIONS
AND PROGRAMS.

B. ECA AFFORDS THE U.S. AS WELL AS OTHERS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
SERIOUS AND BUSINESSLIKE DIALOGUE ON ECONOMIC ISSUES, A
FUNCTION THE U.S. GREATLY APPRECIATES. THE U.S. IS ENCOURAGED BY
AND AGREES WITH THE IMPORTANCE ECA PLACES ON SELF-RELIANCE,
REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION AND INTEGRATED RURAL
DEVELOPMENT AS THE BASIS OF SELF-
SUSTAINING DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA. WE ARE ALSO IMPRESSED BY THE
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REALISM AND MODERATION WHICH CHARACTERIZE ECA ASSESSMENTS AND
POSITIONS ON INTERANTIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES WHICH EXTEND BEYOND
AFRICA TO EMBRACE THE ENTIRE WORLD ECONOMY.

C. U.S. SUPPORTS ECA'S ROLE AS CATALYST FOR INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS
WHICH FALL BEYOND THE RESOURCES OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONS; EXAMPLES
INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO REMOTE SENSING, DEVELOPMENT OF
NONCONVENTIONAL SOURCES OF ENERGY, AND THE WOMEN'S PROGRAM.

D. U.S. HAS A HIGH DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE NEW LEADERSHIP OF ECA AND NOTES WITH APPROVAL THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO REORGANIZE THE SECRETARIAT AND TO MAKE ECA A MORE OPERATIONAL ORGANIZATION.

E. WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT ECA IS BASICALLY AN AFRICAN ORGANIZATION, THE U.S., AS IN THE PAST, IS PREPARED TO ASSIST IN CERTAIN KEY AREAS. THE USAID -ECA GRANT SIGNED LAST JUNE IS A CONCRETE EXAMPLE OF THIS ATTITUDE.

F. THE U.S. SALUTES THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA FOR THE SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL SUPPORT WHICH IT HAS PLEDGED TO ECA. THE U.S. BELIEVES THAT AFRICAN NATIONS AS WELL AS EXTERNAL DONORS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO ECA IF IT IS TO REALIZE ITS FULL POTENTIAL.

2. REFTEL B CONTAINS EMBASSY ASSESSMENT OF ECA PERFORMANCE AND PROVIDES BASIS FOR THEMES SUGGESTED ABOVE.

3. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS SUGGESTING PRIVATE MEETING WITH ADEDEJI WHERE ECA'S MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS (SEE REF B) COULD APPROPRIATELY BE DISCUSSED.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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